HIKARU no GO

SHONEN JUMP MANGA

Story by Yumi Hotta

Art by Takeshi Obata

Supervised by Yukari Umezawa (5 Dan)

volume 17



Yumi Hotta

When I went to Korea on a research trip, I got to meet Korea's top go player, Cho Hunhyon. Guess what? He's been reading *Hikaru no Go* for two years already. And in fluent Japanese he said, "If only the ghost of a strong go player would come and possess me too!" He has a playful sense of humor.

—Yumi Hotta

It all began when Yumi Hotta played a pick-up game of go with her father-in-law. As she was learning how to play, Ms. Hotta thought it might be fun to create a story around the traditional board game. More confident in her storytelling abilities than her drawing skills, she submitted the beginnings of **Hikaru no Go** to **Weekly Shonen Jump**'s Story King Award. The Story King Award is an award that picks the best story, manga, character design and youth (under 15) manga submissions every year in Japan. As fate would have it, Ms. Hotta's story (originally named, "***Kokonotsu no Hoshi***"), was a runner-up in the "Story" category of the Story King Award. Many years earlier, Takeshi Obata was a runner-up for the Tezuka Award, another Japanese manga contest sponsored by **Weekly Shonen Jump** and **Monthly Shonen Jump**. An editor assigned to Mr. Obata's artwork came upon Ms. Hotta's story and paired the two for a full-fledged manga about go. The rest is modern go history.

HIKARU NO GO VOL. 17
SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition

STORY BY YUMI HOTTA
ART BY TAKESHI OBATA
Supervised by YUKARI UMEZAWA (5 Dan)

Translation & English Adaptation/Naoko Amemiya
English Script Consultant/Janice Kim (3 Dan)
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Inori Fukuda Trant
Design/Julie Behn
Editor/Gary Leach

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RATED A FOR ALL AGES
PARENTAL ADVISORY
HIKARU NO GO is rated A and is suitable for readers of all ages.
ratings.viz.com

THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MANGA
SHONEN JUMP
www.shonenjump.com



17 A FAMILIAR FACE

STORY BY
YUMI HOTTA

ART BY
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(5 Dan)

Introduction Characters



Hikaru Shindo



Fujiwara-no-Sai



Koyo Toya



Akira Toya



Ogata Judan



Shinichiro Isumi



Kosuke Ochi



Yoshitaka Waya



Kurata 6 dan



Hiroyuki Ashiwara



Koji Saeki



Zama Oza



Kuwabara Hon'inbo



Akari Fujisaki

Story Thus Far

Hikaru Shindo discovers an old go board one day up in his grandfather's attic. The moment Hikaru touches the board, the spirit of Fujiwara-no-Sai, a genius go player from Japan's Heian Era, enters his consciousness. Sai's love of go inspires Hikaru, as does a meeting with the child prodigy Akira Toya—son of go master Toya Meijin.

Isumi, having traveled to China for some goodwill games, stays behind in China to train hard for the pro test only two months away. At the Chinese Go Association where the elite pros gather, an 11-year-old Waya look-alike beats Isumi, causing him to lose confidence. But Yang Hai, the pro who offers to share his room with Isumi, gives him some advice to improve his mental state. That advice helps Isumi gradually regain his rhythm. He plays many Chinese professionals and in the process learns to play his best without being thrown off by circumstance. He emerges victorious from his rematch with Le Ping and is able to leave China with an unwavering confidence in his own playing. Upon return to Japan, Isumi visits Hikaru and presses him for a game of go. But Hikaru hasn't played since Sai disappeared. Reluctantly he starts to play, but within his own moves he glimpses the vanished Sai…!

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Game 140 "A Vow"



SHINDO?

HERE, IN THE MOVES I MADE...

HERE, IN THE BOARD IN FRONT OF ME...

I COULDN'T FIND HIM ANYWHERE... BUT I SAW HIM.

SAI WAS HERE.

HE'S BEEN QUIETLY HIDING.

SAI... IS IT...

...IS FOR ME TO PLAY GO.

SAI... I GUESS THE ONE AND ONLY WAY TO SEE YOU...

...IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO PLAY?

TO PLAY GO.

MAYBE... MAYBE IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO PLAY...

ISUMI...

SHINDO...

SOMETHING'S BEEN TORMENTING YOU FOR A WHILE.

I'LL PLAY YOU, ISUMI. AND WAYA. AND OCHI, AND EVERYONE.

TENS, HUNDREDS, OR EVEN THOUSANDS OF GAMES!

I'LL PLAY. I WILL!

YES.

THAT'S THE PATH I WANT TO TAKE IN LIFE TOO.

THIS IS A NEW BEGINNING FOR ME.

THANK YOU, ISUMI.

KCHK

KLAK

TOYA...

FWK

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?!

WELL, IF IT ISN'T SHINDO!

HUH? ME?

OH! HEY! ARE THE GAMES...

EH?

IT'S OVER.

FORGET IT.

DON'T PLAY DUMB! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, SKIPPING YOUR MATCHES—

...LOOKING FOR YOUR RIVAL? HE'S ON THE FIFTH FLOOR.

KID, ARE YOU...

FORGET IT?! KUWABARA SENSEI! THIS GUY HASN'T—

THANK YOU!

HE'S BACK.

ONE LOOK AT HIS EYES, AND IT'S PLAIN AS DAY.

...THAT YOU NEED TWO TO PLAY GO?

DID YOU KNOW...

LISTEN, SAKAMAKI.

DASH

AH, BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THAT'S OBVIOUS.

OF COURSE.

TA
TA

I'VE GOT SOME-THING TO TELL YOU, TOYA.

JUST YOU WAIT.

NICE GAME.

GOOD JOB, BOTH OF YOU.

GOOD GAME.

THAT'S NOT GIVING YOUNG TOYA HIS DUE CREDIT.

JUST GOES TO SHOW, HE'S TOYA SENSEI'S SON.

YOU'LL ALLOW ME TO INTER-VIEW YOU UPSTAIRS?

TO THINK THAT A MERE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL KID MADE IT, THOUGH!

SO HAGIWARA'S FAILED HIS FIRST CHANCE TO GET INTO THE LEAGUE IN SEVEN YEARS.

WHAT IT SHOWS IS HOW GOOD TOYA AKIRA IS.

IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH TOYA SENSEI.

!

CONGRATULA-TIONS ON MAKING IT INTO THE HON'INBO LEAGUE.

TOYA...

CHATTER

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

HUF

HUF

SHINDO!

WHAT ?!

CHATTER

GOOD-BYE.

HUF

HUF

SHINDO! WHERE ON EARTH HAVE YOU BEEN ALL THIS TIME?!

HEY!

THE GAME RECORD, RIGHT?!

SO YOU WON!

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I'M...

TOYA...

YOU CAN'T PLAY GO ALONE.

I'M NOT QUITTING GO!

YOU NEED TWO PEOPLE.

OF COURSE NOT. THAT'S OBVIOUS.

ONE GENIUS ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH FOR A TRULY GREAT GAME.

I CAME TO TELL YOU THAT.

I'M GOING TO WALK THIS PATH TOO!

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SAKAMAKI?

YOU NEED TWO PEOPLE WHO ARE EQUALLY GIFTED.

TWO PEOPLE.

WHEN THOSE TWO COME TO-GETHER...

COME AFTER ME, THEN!

...THEY WILL BE THAT MUCH CLOSER TO THE DIVINE MOVE.

READ THIS WAY

HA HA... THAT WON'T BE ANYTIME SOON.

THEY'LL HAVE TAKEN A STEP TOWARD IT, YES.

THE DIVINE MOVE?!

BUT SO LONG AS I'M ALIVE I HAVE...

THE LONG PATH WITHOUT END.

LOOKS LIKE THAT KID HAS FOUND HIS RESOLVE TO WALK THE PATH.

...NO INTENTION OF GOING EASY ON ANYONE, EVEN KIDS.

REALLY? IF YOU WIN TODAY YOU'LL ADVANCE TO 3 DAN?

YEAH.

AREN'T YOU UP AGAINST THAT GUY WHO'S DITCHING ALL HIS MATCHES?

!

TSK!

I'LL GET AN AUTOMATIC WIN BECAUSE OF HIS NO-SHOW.

ZHOOP

GOOD MORNING!

SO... YOU SHOWED UP.

SHINDO.


SAI


HIKARU


AKIRA


TOYA
KOYO


AKARI


WAYA

Game 141 "First Post-Comeback Match"

HEY, TSUJIOKA.

WHAT'S THAT? SHINDO'S HERE?

HMPH! WHY'D HE HAVE TO PICK TODAY TO SHOW UP?

GOOD. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO PLAY HIM.

I'M UP AGAINST HIM IN MY NEXT OTEAI MATCH.

BECAUSE I HEARD A RUMOR THAT TOYA AKIRA CONSIDERS HIM HIS RIVAL.

WHY?

YOU HAVE? WHY?!

...

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

YOU HEARD **WHAT**?!

TOYA...

GOOD MORNING.

SHINDO...

READ THIS WAY



BEEEP

ONEGAISHIMASU.

KLAK

KCHK

KLAK

KLAK

KCHK

KLAK

KCHK

BUT HIS ENDGAME WAS WEAK, AND IN THE END I WON BY SIX AND A HALF POINTS.

TRUE, HE MADE SOME GOOD MOVES THAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION.

AND YET...

I PLAYED THIS GUY IN LAST YEAR'S YOUNG LIONS TOURNAMENT.

AT THE TIME I GOT ANGRY THAT HE WAS SO INTERESTED IN THE GUY I'D JUST BEAT.

...AFTER THE GAME TOYA CAME AND PESTERED ME ABOUT HOW SHINDO HAD PLAYED.

BUT I GUESS TOYA REALLY DID CONSIDER HIM HIS RIVAL.

KLAK

KCHK

I'LL LEAD US INTO THE ENDGAME AND THEN PLAY DELIBERATELY FOR A SURE WIN.

I'VE GOT TO PLAY TIGHT.

I NEED TO BE STINGY WITH TERRITORY.







WHAT?! ARE YOU SURE, KANEKO?

THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S BEEN OUT THE PAST TWO OR THREE DAYS. HE SAID IT'S TO PLAY GO AT SOME STUDY GROUP OR SOMETHIN'.

HIKARU'S ABSENT TODAY BECAUSE OF A MATCH?!

IT'S ALMOST SUMMER VACATION, SO WE HAVE SHORT SCHOOL DAYS ANYWAY. OUR HOMEROOM TEACHER, MS. SUZUKI, SAID SHE'S HAPPY CUZ SHE CARES MORE ABOUT SHINDO BEING HAPPY AGAIN THAN ABOUT HIM MISSING SCHOOL.

SO HIKARU'S BACK TO HIS OLD SELF!

LOOK WHO'S TALKING.

HMPH! HE TOLD US THAT HE WAS GONNA QUIT BEING A PRO PLAYER, AND NOW HE'S CUTTING SCHOOL TO PLAY GO?! HE JUST DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS, DOESN'T HE?

WHATEVER! I BET SHINDO HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GO BACK TO BEING A PRO. HE REALIZED OTHERWISE HE'D HAVE TO STUDY FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS.

YOU DECIDED AT THE LAST MINUTE YOU WANTED TO PLAY IN THE TOURNAMENT, BUT YOU ONLY SHOWED UP FOR PRACTICE WHEN YOU FELT LIKE IT.

WHAAT ?!

OH? AS IF **YOU** STUDY FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS!

BUT THANKS TO MITANI, WE GOT TO PLAY IN THAT TOURNAMENT. THAT WAS FUN.

SHUT UP!

THE GIRLS DID GREAT TOO. YOU WON THE FIRST ROUND WITH 3-0.

EVEN THOUGH THEY ALL LOST TO KAIO.

THE GUYS WENT TO THE FINALS!

IT'LL BE JUST ME... WHAT CAN I DO?

YOU GUYS ARE THIRD-YEARS SO YOU'RE LEAVING THE CLUB, RIGHT?

SIGH...

HE DID?!

...STARTED THIS GO CLUB BY HIMSELF?

KOIKE, DID YOU KNOW A GUY NAMED TSUTUI...

...AND HIKARU GOT MITANI TO JOIN.

THEN HIKARU JOINED AND I TAGGED ALONG...

YEAH!

IT'S FUN TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE, BUT I THINK IT'D BE FUN TO START FROM SCRATCH TOO.

THAT'S HOW THE CLUB STARTED.

YOU LOOK OVER-JOYED.

GASP

M-MINE?!

IT'S YOUR GO CLUB FROM NOW ON, KOIKE.

HA HA HA...

EVERYONE IS CHANGING.

THE HAZE MIDDLE SCHOOL GO CLUB IS CHANGING.

MY GO CLUB?!

I BET JUST ABOUT NOW, HIKARU IS...

HIKARU WAS GOING TO QUIT BEING A PRO, BUT HE'S PUTTING HIS HEART INTO IT AGAIN.

...SEATED AT A GO BOARD, LOOKING DEAD SERIOUS.

KLAK

KCHK

IT MIGHT NOT BE ENOUGH TO PROTECT MY TERRITORY. I'LL GO ON THE OFFENSIVE.

KSHH

READ THIS WAY

KLAK

KSHH

KLAK

KLAK

KSHH

KLAK

...

THERE'S NO WAY I CAN POSSIBLY BEAT HIM.

WHY'S A KID THIS GOOD PLAYING AMONG THE LOWER RANKS?

TWITCH

GLANCE

I RESIGN.

...

TONK

THANK YOU FOR THE GAME.

KLNK KLNK KLNK KLNK

THANK YOU FOR THE GAME.

I RESIGN.

READ THIS WAY

SO TOYA'S FINISHED TOO.

KLNK

KLNK KLNK

WAS THAT RUMOR FALSE?

HE'D WANT TO IF HE REALLY CONSIDERED SHINDO A RIVAL.

OR...

WITHOUT WATCHING SHINDO'S FIRST COME-BACK GAME?

HUH? HE'S LEAVING?

...

DOES HE THINK IT'S NOT WORTH WATCHING A GAME BETWEEN SHINDO AND A LOW-RANKING PLAYER?

COULD IT BE?

I'VE BEEN CERTAIN OF THAT SINCE THE NIGHT HE REAPPEARED.

...I HAVE TO PLAY HIM MYSELF.

TO LEARN SHINDO'S STRENGTH...

I JUST HAVE TO WAIT.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I GOT THE TOURNAMENT CHART FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF THE PRELIMINARIES FOR THE MEIJIN TITLE.

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, TOYA'S OPPONENT FOR THE FIRST ROUND WAS...

IT'S ALREADY SETTLED THAT WE WILL PLAY EACH OTHER.

Shindo Hikaru 3 dan

Akira Toya Shodan

A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

AORI & HASHIRA* ①



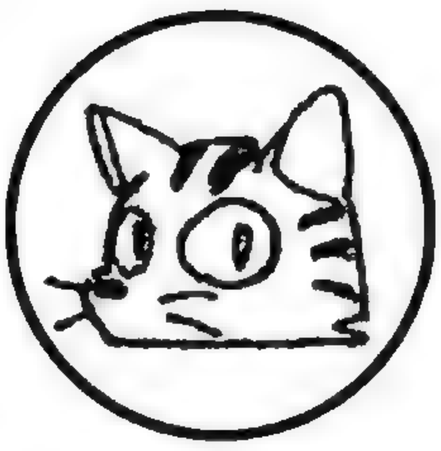
(Vol. 13. p.95)



(Vol. 17. p.30)

THE WRITING ON THE LEFT SIDE IS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE CALL AN *AORI*.
THE WRITING ON THE RIGHT IS A *HASHIRA*.

ACTUALLY, IT'S MY EDITOR THAT COMES UP WITH SENTENCES LIKE THESE.



*Catchy slogans that are meant to entice the reader to keep reading.

Game 142 "Breaking into a Run"

HE'S DOING A GOOD JOB DEFLECTING SHINDO'S ATTACK ON THE CENTRAL WHITE GROUP...

...BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT SHINDO WANTS.

...

BUT HE'S HAD TO EXPEND SO MANY MOVES THAT SHINDO TOOK THE LEAD IN TERRITORY.

MURAKAMI THINKS HE'S BLOCKED HIS OPPONENT'S ATTACK.

READ THIS WAY

KSHH

KSHH

I'VE... LOST.

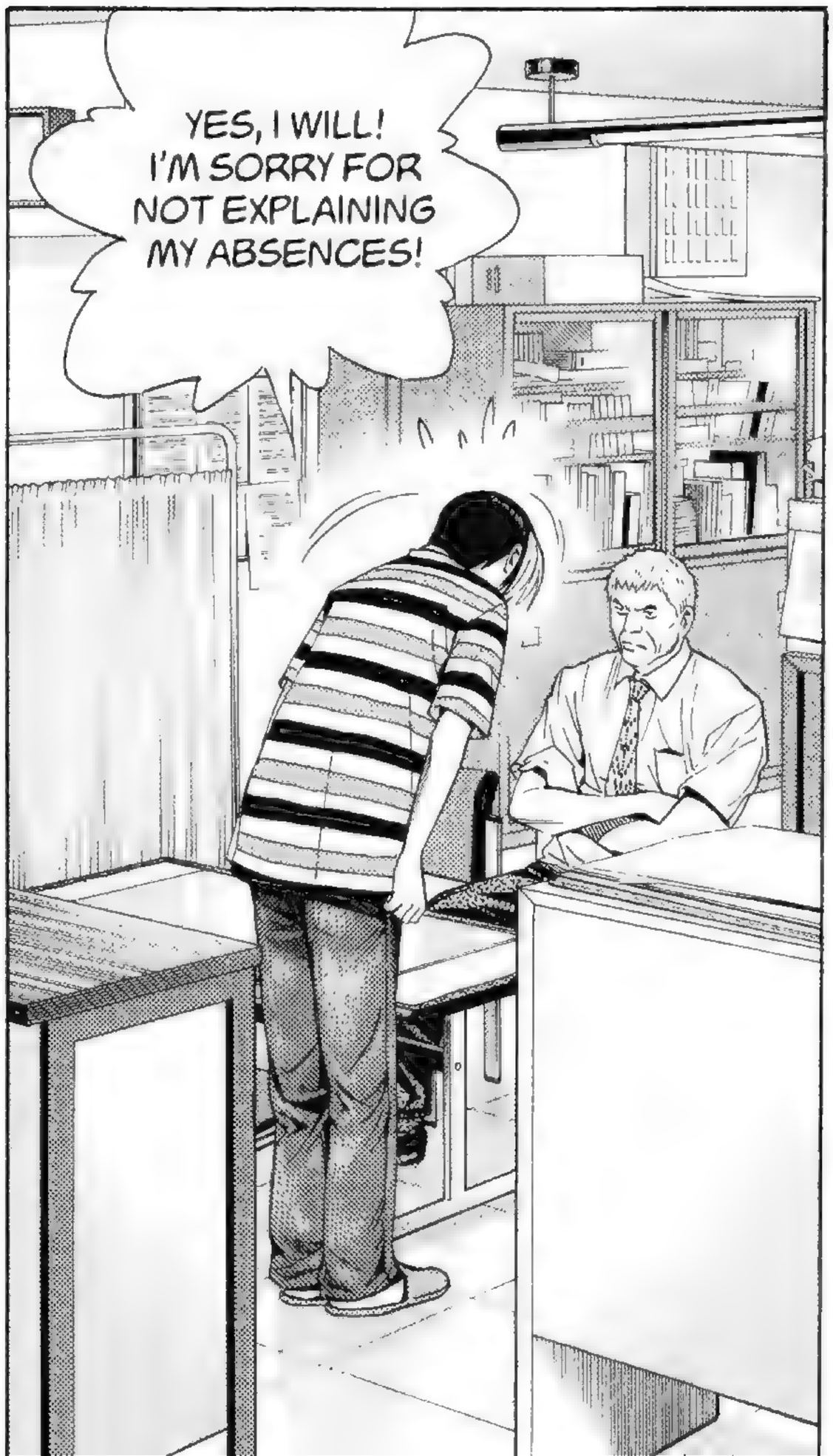
...

HE LOST HIS WILL TO FIGHT.

SHINDO, CAN I HAVE A WORD?




SO HE REALLY IS TOYA'S RIVAL!


YES, I WILL! I'M SORRY FOR NOT EXPLAINING MY ABSENCES!


YOU INTEND TO SHOW UP AT YOUR MATCHES FROM NOW ON?

READ THIS WAY

YOUR FIRST OPPONENT WILL BE TOYA 3 DAN, I BELIEVE.

...

YES! I GOT IT YESTERDAY!

THE TOURNAMENT CHART FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF THE MEIJIN PRELIMINARIES HAS BEEN MAILED ALREADY.

YES!

BETTER DO YOUR BEST. SOME PEOPLE EXPECT A GREAT DEAL FROM YOU.

TOYA HAS QUITE A PACKED SCHEDULE OF MATCHES, SO I DON'T KNOW YET WHEN YOUR GAME WILL BE.

...

SCRAM SCRAM

I UNDERSTAND. AND I AM SORRY. GOODBYE!

WHO WERE THOSE PEOPLE YOU WERE SPEAKING OF?

OH, AMANO ...

'COURSE, TO ME SHINDO JUST SEEMS LIKE A RUDE LITTLE KID.

HE TALKS AS IF SHINDO WERE EQUAL TO TOYA AKIRA. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

I WAS THINKING OF KUWA-BARA SENSEI.

READ THIS WAY

I JUST HOPE IT WON'T BE ANYONE WHO PULLS NO-SHOWS LIKE SHINDO.

WONDER WHO'LL SUCCEED THIS YEAR.

THE PRO TEST STARTS THIS WEEK.

HA HA HA...

お知らせ

BUT IF WE SEE A SUDDEN OUTBREAK OF PLAYERS AS AMAZING AS TOYA, I'LL BE AS HAPPY AS THE NEXT GUY.

THAT SHINDO... I DUNNO...

WHAT DO YOU THINK, AMANO?

DO WE HAVE ANYTHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN THE FUTURE OF GO?

CONFERENCE 2ND FLOOR
TEACHING GAME:
SASAKI TADASHI 8 DAN
FOUNDATIONS OF GO 3RI
HINOKI CLASS 3RD FLOOI
PRO TEST 6TH FLOOR
JAPAN GO ASSOCIATIO

READ THIS WAY

PLEASE BEGIN.

SHINODA SENSEI...

READ THIS WAY

THE FINALS WILL BEGIN IN A MONTH.

YES. THE PRELIMS, ANYWAY.

SO THIS YEAR'S PRO TEST IS FINALLY UNDERWAY?

HE LOOKED STRONG AND DETER-MINED.

VERY DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR.

DID YOU SEE THE LOOK ON ISUMI'S FACE?

KADOWAKI AND ISUMI ARE THE FAVORITES, I SUPPOSE?

HE WAS A LITTLE SHAKY BEFORE.

OH? I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HIM.

AND GO PLAYERS ARE NO EXCEPTION.

MR. AMANO, SOME PEOPLE SAY TO MAKE IT IN THE GO WORLD YOU HAVE TO DISCOVER YOUR TALENT EARLY ON. BUT I AM CONSTANTLY REMINDED THAT PEOPLE DON'T BLOSSOM ACCORDING TO SOME ORGANIZATIONAL TIMETABLE.

HA HA HA...

IF ISUMI PASSES THE PRO TEST, I'LL BE QUOTING YOU IN MY ARTICLE IN *GO WEEKLY*.

YES. LET'S HOPE THIS YEAR'S NEW PROS DO AS WELL.

OCHI AND WAYA PASSED LAST YEAR, AND THEY SEEM TO BE DOING WELL. AND SHINDO WON HIS FIRST GAME SINCE HIS RETURN.

KLAK

SHINDO
HIKARU
SHODAN

TSUJIOKA
TADAO
2 DAN

OTEAI

KCHK

BLACK'S NOT MAKING IT EASY. IT'S HARD TO KNOW HOW WHITE SHOULD RESPOND.

BLACK'S INSTABILITY WILL BE GONE AND THE GAME WILL PLAY OUT IN HIS FAVOR.

SHOOT! I MISSED THE TIMING FOR A COUNTER-ATTACK.

IF BLACK GETS RID OF WHITE'S POTENTIAL AT THIS POINT, I'LL BE OUT OF LUCK.

SHP

FWD

...

ZHOOP

SO HE BEAT BOTH MURAOKA AND TSUJIOKA.

日本棋院棋士会
日本棋院囲碁部

中
"RESIGN"
△
△
△

山内 YAMAUCHI
田中(広) TANAKA
辻岡 TSUJIOKA
進藤 SHINDO
宮島 MIYAJIMA

GOOD-BYE.

BYE!

IS SHINDO'S TALENT THE REAL THING?

IS GO'S NEW WAVE REALLY ON ITS WAY?

THE OZA TITLE

SECOND STAGE OF THE PRELIMINARIES

ROUND 2

MATSUNAGA TOSHIYUKI 6 DAN

TOYA AKIRA 3 DAN

I LOSE!

KLUNK

TOYA
AKIRA
3 DAN

THE TENGEN
TITLE

SECOND
STAGE OF
THE PRELIM-
INARIES

ROUND 1

...

...

KAMIMAEZU
HIROSHI
7 DAN

...

...

...

...

I RESIGN.

READ THIS WAY

HE'S KNOCKING DOWN HIGH-RANKED PLAYERS ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

...WITH TOYA AKIRA LEADING THE WAY.

MAYBE THE NEW WAVE REALLY IS COMING...

A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

AORI & HASHIRA ②

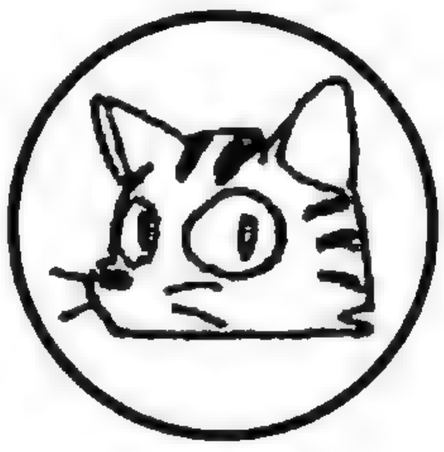


(Vol. 14. p.8)

SEE THE SCENE ABOVE? I, HOTTA, ASKED MY EDITOR, TAKAHASHI-SAN, "CAN YOU ASK OBATA SENSEI TO PORTRAY IT IN A SUBTLE WAY? IT'S FINE IF YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP THE TWO HAVE."

TAKAHASHI-SAN LAUGHED AND SAID, "ALL RIGHT."

AND THEN...
OBATA SENSEI DID DRAW THE SCENE IN A SOMEWHAT SUBTLE WAY, BUT DO YOU SEE THE AORI THAT SAYS "OGATA 9 DAN: THE PRIVATE LIFE OF AN ADULT" THAT TAKAHASHI SLAPPED ON IT?



COME ON...!



Game 143 "Rumblings in the World of Go"

KLAK

GOSEI TITLE FIFTH MATCH

TWO PLAYERS WERE IN A FIVE-GAME MATCH, HAVING ADVANCED TO THE FINALS TO DETERMINE THE CHALLENGER.

TOYA KOYO'S RETIREMENT MEANT THERE WAS NO REIGNING GOSEI TITLE-HOLDER.



I RESIGN.

TMP

TMP

CHK

CHK

CHK

CHK

CONGRATULA-
TIONS, OGATA
SENSEI.

CHK

CONGRATU-
LATIONS.

WITH THE
JUDAN TITLE
AND NOW THIS,
YOU HOLD TWO
TITLES.

IT WAS TOUGH.

HE STUCK TO ME AND PUSHED ME OUT.

NOGI SENSEI, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS LOOKING BACK AT THE GAME?

FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU, NOGI, WHO HELD THE MEIJIN TITLE FOR THREE YEARS IN A ROW, IT MUST BE FRUS-TRATING...

...TO BE PUSHED OUT BY THE LIKES OF OGATA.

...WHAT YOU'RE DOING, NOGI? WE OLD-TIMERS SHOULD SHOW MORE GRIT, DON'T YOU THINK?

I WAS WATCHING FROM THE WAITING ROOM. MAY I ASK...

KUWABARA SENSEI...

I'M SURE ICHIRYU WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE HANDLING THAT YOUNG HATANAKA.

NEXT MONTH'S MEIJIN TITLE MATCHES WILL BE A FIGHT BETWEEN ICHIRYU AND HATANAKA.

HAR HAR...

KUWABARA SENSEI, YOU DID A MAGNIFICENT JOB DEFENDING YOUR HON'INBO TITLE AGAINST KURATA.

WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO HAND OVER THE KEYS TO THE WORLD TO ANY YOUNG UPSTART. NOT ANYTIME SOON.

THE HON'INBO TITLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN ENOUGH FOR ME, BUT...

HMM...

I HEAR YOU. BUT KUWABARA SENSEI, OGATA SENSEI ALREADY HOLDS TWO TITLES.

DON'T WE, OGATA?

OGATA AND I GET ALONG WELL.

...SINCE OGATA NOW HOLDS THE GOSEI AND JUDAN TITLES, MAYBE I'LL GO AFTER THEM IN EARNEST.

I'LL BE SITTING IN THE SEAT OF HONOR, WAITING FOR YOU.

HE'S DEVELOPING QUITE A HAUGHTY DEMEANOR.

HOW UNFORTUNATE.

OGATA SENSEI...

SNAP

JAPAN GO ASSOCIATION

囲碁教室2

すすめ

SNAP

OH... GOOD MORNING.

PRETTY IMPRES-SIVE.

IT HASN'T BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE WE PLAYED IN THE SHINSHODAN SERIES.

GOOD MORNING.

...

IT WAS CLEAR THERE WAS A BIG DIF-FERENCE IN OUR ABILITIES.

IN THAT MATCH, I HAD A HANDICAP OF FIVE AND A HALF POINTS AND I STILL WON.

...YOU CAN SHOW ME JUST HOW MUCH YOU'VE IMPROVED.

SNAP

IN TODAY'S EQUAL MATCH...

READ THIS WAY

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE. TOYA WAS A NEW SHODAN THEN, AND NOW HE'S ALREADY PLAYING IN THE HON'INBO LEAGUE.

I WAS THE RECORDER FOR THAT SHIN-SHODAN GAME TWO YEARS AGO.

...

THE HON'INBO LEAGUE: A LEAGUE TOURNAMENT AMONG EIGHT PLAYERS TO DETERMINE WHO WILL BE THE CHALLENGER FOR THE HON'INBO TITLE.

BUZZZZ

BA-BUMP

ONEGAISHIMASU.

YES, PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT...

OH, HELLO, MR. MIYAKE.

WHAT DID HE SAY?

WAS THAT MR. MIYAKE OF THE DAILY MORNING JOURNAL?

カタン

WOW!

WHAT?! WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

ARE YOU SURE?!

YES.

T-TOYA KOYO SENSEI...

...SIGNED A CON-TRACT WITH CHINA'S BEIJING TEAM!

Y'MEAN THE ONE THAT'S PART OF CHINA'S LEAGUE TOURNAMENT?

THE BEIJING TEAM?!

I'D HEARD THAT SOME OF THOSE TEAMS HAD CONTRACTS WITH TOP KOREAN PLAYERS, BUT STILL...

IN CHINA, THEY HAVE A GO LEAGUE THAT'S MUCH LIKE JAPAN'S J-LEAGUE FOR SOCCER.

LEAGUE TOURNA-MENT?

MURMUR

KLATER

HIS FEE FROM THE CHINESE CONTRACT WON'T SEEM LIKE THAT MUCH, BUT I'M SURE HE'S DRAWN BY THE CHANCE TO COMPETE AMONG THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL PLAYERS!

I GET IT! NOW THAT HE'S RETIRED, TOYA SENSEI ISN'T TIED TO THE PROFESSIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE IN JAPAN!

READ THIS WAY

I MUST CALL TOYA SENSEI TO CONFIRM THIS!

*Sign on building: Chinese Go Association

YANG HAI! DIDJA HEAR? JAPAN'S TOYA SENSEI JOINED THE BEIJING TEAM!

FIND OUT

YEAH, I KNOW. EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT IT ONLINE.

WOW, WHAT ENTHUSIASM! YOU A FAN OF TOYA KOYO?

YOU BET I AM! HE'S THE CLOSEST OF ANY TO THE DIVINE MOVE!

THIS WILL RAISE THE STRENGTH OF THE BEIJING TEAM AND MAKE THE GROUP LEAGUE EVEN MORE INTERESTING!

THE SHANGHAI TEAM THAT WANG XING AND I ARE ON CAN'T JUST COAST ALONG NOW!

THE DIVINE MOVE WILL COME FROM HERE.

THE DIVINE MOVE, HUH?

TAP

BUT THEY SAY IT'LL BE ANOTHER HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE A COMPUTER CAN BEAT A HUMAN AT GO.

I DON'T NEED A HUNDRED YEARS.



FROM A COMPUTER?

UH-HUH...

I HAVE A SPONSOR NOW. I CAN FINALLY START DEVELOPING IT.

I ALREADY HAVE PEOPLE INPUTTING THE DATA ELSEWHERE.

YOU'RE SPENDING YOUR TIME ON THAT!

I SEE NOW! THAT'S WHY YOUR TEAM IS WEAK!

IT'S WORSE THAN MINE, DUDE.

THAT'S GOT NOTHIN' TO DO WITH IT! JUST LOOK AT MY PERSONAL WIN RATIO!

I'VE CHECKED A NUMBER OF CHINESE SITES. IT DOES SEEM TO BE TRUE.

IT'S NO USE! NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I CALL TOYA SENSEI, NOBODY EVER ANSWERS.

JAPAN GO ASSOCIATION

囲碁教室 2

I WONDER IF HE EVEN KNOWS...

I SAW AKIRA THIS MORNING, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.

OH NO! *GO WEEKLY* WILL HAVE TO RUN AROUND FOLLOWING HIM. JUST THINK OF IT!

AND HOW MANY GAMES A YEAR WILL HE HAVE? WE'VE GOTTA GET SOME RE-SEARCH DONE!

HOW OFTEN WILL TOYA SENSEI BE GOING TO CHINA?

READ THIS WAY

YOSHI-KAWA...

...

RIGHT, MR. AMANO?

DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE THERE'S A SEA CHANGE HAPPENING IN THE WORLD OF GO?

THAT'S NOT THE ONLY THING THE EDITOR THINKS UP.

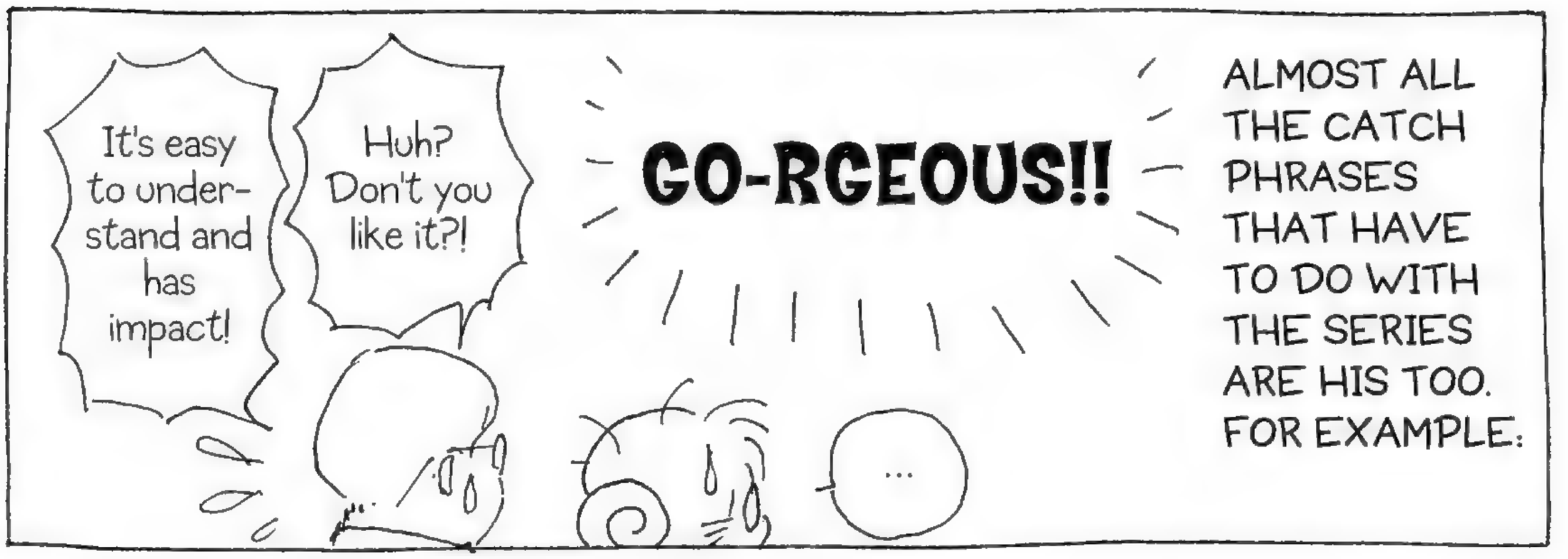
IN "A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO" I WROTE THAT THE EDITOR WRITES THE *AORI* AND *HASHIRA* COPY.

HIKARU NO GO

STORYBOARDS

42

YUMI HOTTA



ALMOST ALL THE CATCH PHRASES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE SERIES ARE HIS TOO. FOR EXAMPLE:



ALSO, PRODUCT COPY LIKE THIS:

IT'S A (QUESTIONABLE) PLEASURE TO BE FOUND ONLY IN THIS MAGAZINE.

THE EDITOR'S WRITING STYLE AND SLEAZINESS IS REVEALED IN THE *AORI* AND *HASHIRA* COPY.



Game 144

"Finally!"

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I'M HERE FOR MORISHITA SENSEI'S STUDY GROUP.

KURATA...

IT'S NOT A GAME DAY. WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE GO ASSOCIATION?

'SUP, SHINDO?

MENU

ME? WHY'S THAT?

THE REASON TOYA'S PLAYING THE FIRST ROUND AGAIN THIS YEAR...

...IS BECAUSE LAST YEAR YOU BEAT HIM IN THE SECOND ROUND.

YOUR FIRST GAME IS WITH TOYA AKIRA!

I SAW THE CHART FOR THE FIRST PRELIMI-NARY ROUND FOR THE MEIJIN TITLE.

IT SURE IS!

IT'S THANKS TO YOU THAT I GET TO PLAY HIM.

READ THIS WAY

HA HA HA...

IN EVERY OTHER TITLE TOURNAMENT, HE'S WON HIS WAY UP THE LADDER. HE'S NEVER DOWN AT MY LEVEL.

...AND MAYBE EVEN INCLUDE MY **FIRST NAME!**

IF YOU BEAT TOYA, BRING ME THAT PAPER WITH MY PARTIAL SIGNATURE. I'LL FINISH SIGNING IT...

HMPH!

BUT THAT GUY'S SO BUSY THAT OUR MATCH DAY **STILL** ISN'T SET.

HUH?

WHERE'D I PUT THAT THING?!

YIPES! THAT PAPER WITH HIS AUTOGRAPH!

...THAT'S REALLY... GONNA BE NECESSARY.

UM... I DON'T KNOW IF... UH...

IT'LL GIVE YOU EXTRA ENCOUR-AGEMENT!

THAT'LL BE SPECIAL, JUST FOR YOU!

...

OH HO!

YOU SURE ARE CONFIDENT ABOUT FACING TOYA.

I LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING THE OUTCOME!

WELL THEN, I HOPE YOUR MATCH DATE GETS SET SOON!

CONFIDENT? NO... NO...

OOPS! GOTTA GET TO STUDY GROUP!

WHEN **WILL** I GET TO PLAY HIM...?

I HOPE THE DATE'S SET SOON TOO.

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

KLAK

I RESIGN.

HE WRECKED MY POSITION RIGHT FROM THE OPENING.

THIS BLOCK REALLY DID ME IN. HE ANTICIPATED ALL THE MOVES.

SAEKI?

WANT TO PLAY ME NEXT, SHINDO?

SAEKI! AT THAT RATE YOU WON'T EVEN BEAT TOYA'S DISCIPLE, ASHIWARA!

GREAT, SHINDO! JUST KEEP BLAZING AHEAD LIKE THIS!

YES, PLEASE!

TOYA! I'M READY FOR YOU ANYTIME!

I'M HOME.

OH!

LEMME SEE!

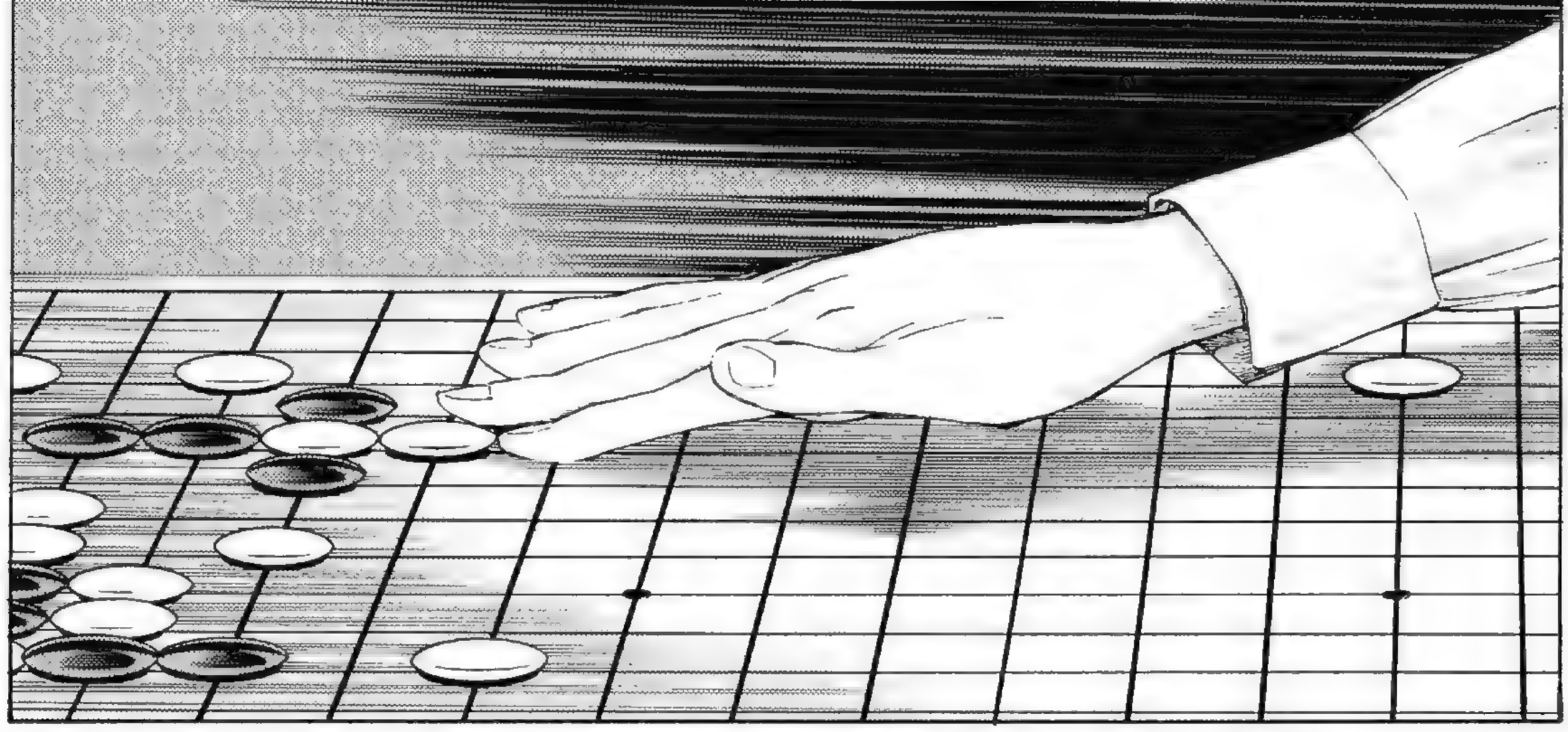
FINALLY!

YOUR MATCH NOTIFICATION CAME TODAY.

HELLO, HIKARU.

THE GAME'S IN TWO WEEKS!

TOYA'S RECORDS FROM THE HON'INBO TOURNAMENT...






WE HAVE TO PLAY EACH OTHER. THAT'S HOW WE'LL START.
LET'S PLAY, TOYA!


YOU WANTED TO PLAY SAI... BUT HE'S NOT HERE ANYMORE.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL REALIZE THAT OR NOT.

SAI'S NOW IN MY GAME OF GO.

YOU AND I WILL BE PLAYING EACH OTHER FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

I'M GONNA GET BETTER AND BETTER TILL I'M AS STRONG AS YOU.

ANY OBJECTION?!

KLAK

BYE!

BYE, AKARI!

OUR TEACHER PROBABLY FORGOT!

OH NO! I DROPPED DOWN IN RANK THIS MIDTERM!

YOU'VE SEEN THE RANKINGS? OUR CLASS HASN'T GOTTEN OURS YET.

HIKARU...

HOW'D YOU KNOW?

YOU PLAY TOYA TOMORROW, DON'T YOU?

I SAW IT IN *GO WEEKLY*...

...IN THE LISTINGS FOR THIS WEEK'S MATCHES.

WHY DO YOU ASK?

BECAUSE YOU'VE GOT A GRIM LOOK ON YOUR FACE.

ARE THE MATCHES SO NERVE-WRACKING YOU GET STRESSED A WHOLE DAY BEFORE?

THE MATCH WITH TOYA IS SPECIAL.

...

ARE YOU BUSY, AKARI?

...

HUH? UM...

OH...

GREAT! LET'S GO TO MY HOUSE.

YOU'LL PLAY ME? REALLY?! I'M THRILLED!

I'D LIKE TO PLAY A GAME...

...WITH YOU. IT MIGHT HELP ME RELAX.

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...

I HAVE?

YOU'VE CHANGED, HIKARU.

BEING A PRO SEEMS TO SUIT YOU NOW. YOU'VE MATURED, I GUESS.

YES. YOU'VE CHANGED.

REALLY?! HOW?!

YOU'VE CHANGED TOO.

YOU GOT SHORTER.

THAT'S JUST CUZ **YOU GREW!**

SEE YOU LATER, HIKARU.

YEAH... BYE.

KLCK

RATTLE

GOODBYE.

I WENT TO KOREA TO DO SOME RESEARCH.

We went to the Go Association...

a go salon...

a study group...

Pak Yeong-hun 3 dan's house...

Cho Sensei's house...

a dojo...

CHK

CHK

CHK

Hotta

Takahashi

JUST LIKE IN CHINA...

...MANY OF THE KOREAN PROFESSIONALS AND OTHERS INVOLVED IN GO HAD READ *HIKARU NO GO* AND WERE WILLING TO HELP WITH OUR RESEARCH.



THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

WHEN I ASKED ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SAMSUNG CUP, THE SAMSUNG REP SAID WITH A LAUGH...

We considered creating a seed bracket for Fujiwara no Sai so he could participate.

HE'D SAY...

THINK ABOUT IT. IF SAI HEARD THAT, HE'D SHED TEARS OF HAPPINESS!

Yes! I'll play!!!

WHAT A COMMOTION HE'D MAKE.

I WAS SO HAPPY I ALMOST CHOKED UP.



Game 145 "Hikaru vs. Akira"

SAEKI, YOU HAVE A LOT RIDING ON TODAY'S GAME, HUH?

GOOD MORNING, SAEKI! I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR GAME!

THANKS! LIKE I NEED **MORE** PRESSURE!

SO IF YOU LOSE YOU'LL FACE MORISHITA SENSEI'S THUNDER.

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN. I'M UP AGAINST ASHIWARA, WHO STUDIES WITH TOYA.

READ THIS WAY

♬

…

対局中につき静かに願います

WAYA! SAEKI!

HEY, SHINDO.

UM... SAEKI? I'VE WONDERED ABOUT THIS BEFORE, BUT DOES IT SEEM LIKE THE SO-CALLED RIVALRY BETWEEN THOSE OF US IN MORISHITA'S CAMP AND THE PLAYERS WHO STUDY WITH TOYA...EXISTS ONLY IN OUR MINDS?

SHH... DON'T SAY THAT OUT LOUD.

GUESS WHAT? I GOT A CALL FROM ISUMI LAST NIGHT.

HE PASSED THE PRO TEST!

SO ISUMI PASSED.

I THINK OF HIM AS **MY** SENPAI, BUT HE CALLED **ME** SENPAI! I'D BETTER WORK HARD.

HE'S WON EVERY GAME SO FAR! YESTERDAY'S WIN INSURED HIS PASSING.

REALLY?! BUT THE PRO TEST STILL HAS A FEW ROUNDS TO GO!

HE TREAD WATER FOR A LONG TIME.

OH, MASHIBA ...

ONCE HE GOES PRO, I BET HE'LL RISE FAST. HE'S GOT THE ABILITY.

SO WHAT ?!

READ THIS WAY

I'M NOT LOSING TODAY'S GAME, WAYA!

DARN IT!

NEW PLAYERS KEEP COMING UP EVERY YEAR...

YOU'RE PLAYING MASHIBA?

YEAH...

UH-HUH...

AND YOU PLAY TOYA?

ZHOOP

もよりの駅へは左右の階段がご便利です

使用しない

—HIM.

TOYA!

READ THIS WAY





黒いスリッパは
玄関六畳以外では
使用しないでください
手洗用
I ANSWERED, "THAT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO YOU GETTING INTO THE LEAGUE."
THAT'S ALL?
HE STARTED THE CONVERSATION, SAYING, "I HEAR YOU'RE ON A WINNING STREAK."

READ THIS WAY

THESE DAYS, HE ONLY CARES ABOUT THE VERY TOP PLAYERS.

I BET HE ANSWERED, "OF COURSE!"

...."YOU'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE BEATING SHINDO TODAY, RIGHT?"

THEN I SAID...

SO WHAT DID HE SAY, HUH?

...

...THERE WAS THAT RUMOR ABOUT HIM BEING TOYA'S RIVAL.

WHEN SHINDO BECAME AN INSEI...

...

"I WON'T KNOW UNTIL I PLAY HIM."

日本棋院

THE REST OF US CAN'T AFFORD TO MESS AROUND.

NOBODY THOUGHT IT WAS REALLY TRUE.

BUT MAYBE IT WAS, AFTER ALL.

I'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO.

THAT'S FOR SURE!

YOU PLAY ME NEXT WEEK, DON'T YOU? I LOOK FORWARD TO IT.

OH YEAH ?!

WELL SAME HERE!!

OKAY... I'D BETTER GET MYSELF FIRED UP!

RIGHT ON! LET'S GO FOR IT, SAEKI!

SO WE FINALLY PLAY EACH OTHER.

TOYA...

...TWO YEARS AND FOUR MONTHS AGO.

THE LAST TIME WAS AT THE GO CLUB'S TEAM TOURNAMENT...

IT'S BEEN THAT LONG, HUH?

THAT LONG...

YES.

READ THIS WAY

TOO BAD. YOU WERE CLOSE.

I SAW YOUR GAME WITH ZAMA SENSEI IN *GO WEEKLY*.

IT WAS A GOOD GAME, BUT HIS ADVANTAGE IN THE OPENING INFLUENCED THE OUTCOME AT THE END.

BUT THE NEXT TIME I PLAY HIM, I'LL HAVE CHANGED TOO.

I CAN'T DEFEAT HIM IN JUST ONE GAME.

HE ONCE HELD THE OZA TITLE.

I GOT TO SEE YOUR ABILITY THROUGH YOUR GAMES WITH ZAMA SENSEI AND HAGIWARA 9 DAN.

TODAY IT'S **MY** TURN TO SHOW **YOU.**

I HAVEN'T JUST BEEN FOOLIN' AROUND THESE PAST TWO YEARS AND FOUR MONTHS.










FHOO

BEEEP

KCHNK

KLNK

KLNK

READ THIS WAY

ONEGAISHIMASU.

TNK

HERE I COME, TOYA!

KCH

THE 3-4 POINT!

KLAK

KCHK

!

KCHK

SO QUICK!

KLAK

KLAK

KCHK

KCHK

THIS IS SPEED GO!

WE HAVE FIVE HOURS BUT HE'S NOT PLAYING THAT WAY!

IT'S LIKE HE'S BEEN REALLY IMPATIENT TO PLAY!

KLAK

KLAK

SO HE DOESN'T INTEND TO WASTE TIME RESPONDING TO ME?

HE DIDN'T RESPOND TO MY APPROACH AND MADE HIS OWN APPROACH INSTEAD.

WE CAN PLUNGE STRAIGHT INTO BATTLE!

FINE!


I'VE BEEN JUST AS IMPATIENT TO PLAY THIS MATCH!



SO YOU'RE PLAYING AN APPROACH MOVE OF YOUR OWN? THEN I'LL GO FOR A LOW PINCER.

Game 146 "Hikaru's Go"

I'LL ADVANCE BROADLY OVER THE BOARD...

...AND PLUNGE US INTO FURIOUS BATTLE!

I FINALLY GET TO FACE YOU.

NOT SINCE THAT GO CLUB TOURNAMENT... NO...

...IT WAS SAI WHO PLAYED THE FIRST HALF OF THAT GAME.

THAT MEANS THIS MATCH...

...IS OUR FIRST TRUE GAME TOGETHER!

Game 146 "Hikaru's Go"

THEN I'LL PUSH THROUGH AND CUT!

THAT'S A BOLD PINCER.

YOU WENT THERE, EH?

I'M BEHIND BY ONE MOVE.

...JOIN YOU IN A CAPTURING RACE.

THEN I'LL...

A SLIDE.

...

AND RESPONDING LIKE A HIGH-RANKING PLAYER!

HE'S READING THE SITUATION ACCURATELY AT A GLANCE!

THIS IS THE RECORD OF SHINDO'S GAME, YUN SENSEI?!

THIS?!

READ THIS WAY

I HAPPENED TO WALK INTO THE GO SALON WHERE IT WAS UNDERWAY.

YES.

SHINDO WAS WHITE. BLACK WAS THE KOREAN STUDENT HONG SUYONG.

BLACK AND WHITE BOTH PLAYED AT A PRO LEVEL...

...ESPE-CIALLY WHITE.

I KNOW YOU WERE DISAPPOINTED IN SHINDO'S POOR PLAYING AT THE TOURNAMENT.

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SHOW THIS TO YOU.

BUT THIS IS WHERE HE IS NOW.

WHAT'S THE WORD ON THE PRO TEST?

IT'S ME.

HELLO?

RUN IT DOWN FOR ME... OKAY, WAYA BEAT FUKUI AND...

IT'S DECIDED? ALL THREE OF THEM?! NO PLAY-OFF?!

...SHINDO BEAT OCHI.

READ THIS WAY

THERE'S ONE OTHER BESIDES YOU WHO'S A THREAT TO ME.

THAT'S SHINDO HIKARU, WHO JUST WENT PRO THIS YEAR.

I PLAYED HIM ONCE AT A GO SALON.

GOTTA KEEP AN EYE ON THAT ONE.

IT'S JUST AS I THOUGHT.

I WANTED TO KNOW HOW GOOD YOU WERE.

THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT.

YOU WILL BE...

...MY LIFE-LONG RIVAL.





SAI...

HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE IT?

HEY, THIS KOREAN KID'S NAME...

THE ONE WHO BEAT KIM KANG IL 9 DAN? HIS NAME IS HONG SUYONG.

IS THE LAST NAME...HONG?

SO KOREA HAS YET ANOTHER RISING STAR.

HONG SUYONG, AGE 14...

KOREA SURE HAS A LOT OF YOUNG PLAYERS WITH TALENT.

AND 16-YEAR-OLD KO YONG HA IS CREATING A NEW RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE WINS.

OH, IT'S STILL JUST A RUMOR...

I SUPPOSE THEY'LL BE PLAYING, THEN.

HONG SUYONG... KO YONG HA...

IN WHAT?

PLAYING?

THERE'S A COMPANY THAT'S LOOKING INTO SPONSORING IT.

A TEAM TOURNAMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL PLAYERS AGE 18 AND UNDER.

...BUT THERE'S TALK OF A JAPAN-CHINA-KOREA JUNIOR CUP.

A JAPAN-CHINA-KOREA JUNIOR CUP?!

WE HAVE TOYA AKIRA!

THAT'S CRAZY! HERE IN JAPAN WE DON'T HAVE KIDS WHO COULD GO UP AGAINST CHINA AND KOREA—

EIGHTEEN AND UNDER?!

RIGHT!

READ THIS WAY

HOW 'BOUT THAT OCHI KID?

YEAH, BUT TOYA CAN'T DO IT ALL BY HIMSELF.

CONSIDERING HIS AGE, HE'S IMPRESSIVE.

SURE IS! AND HE'S ONLY 14, I THINK.

OCHI, HUH? IS HE STILL ON THAT WINNING STREAK?

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

THERE'S SHINDO.

I MEAN, LET'S BE REALISTIC...

THE ONLY ONE WE CAN REALLY DEPEND ON IS TOYA, NOBODY ELSE.

BUT PLAYING AGAINST CHINESE OR KOREAN PLAYERS ISN'T EASY.

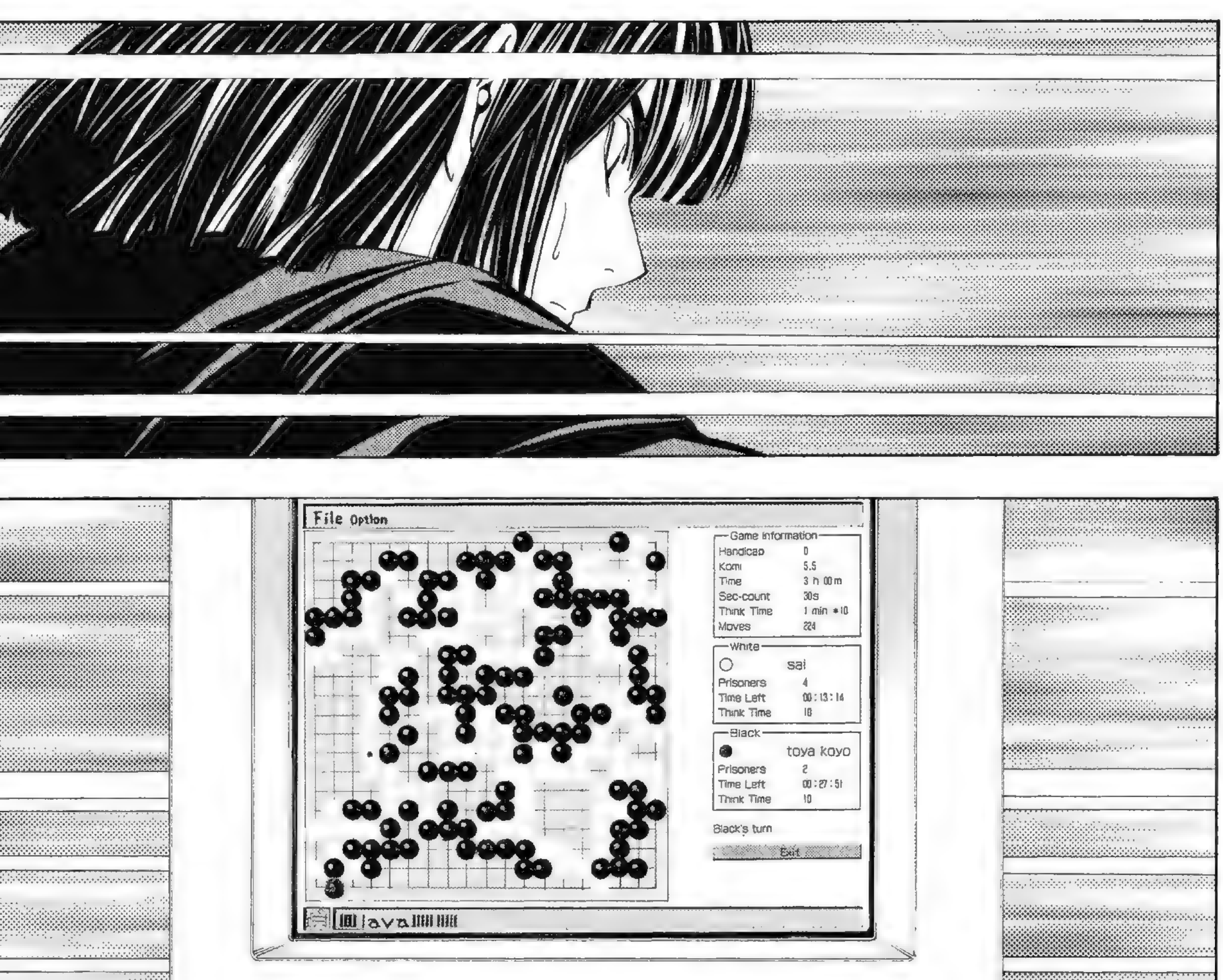
HUH?

THERE'S SHINDO.

...

...A GLIMPSE OF SAI IN SHINDO.

JUST NOW I CAUGHT...



I CATCH GLIMPSES OF ONE WHO HIDES WITHIN YOU.

I SENSE THE SHADOW OF SOMEONE ELSE.

THE ONE I'VE HAD MY EYE ON!

A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

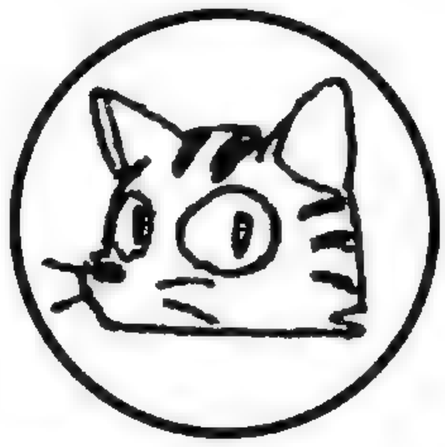
CONSTANT CHANGE (1)



TIME HAS BEEN PASSING IN THE MANGA AT ABOUT THE SAME PACE AS REAL TIME.

SINCE THIS MANGA BEGAN, MUCH HAS CHANGED AROUND THE GO ASSOCIATION – A BIG BUILDING WENT UP NEXT DOOR AND THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE ASSOCIATION WAS REMODELED.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AKIRA TO FIND YOURSELF MUTTERING, "IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME."



Game 147 "Only I Know"

THERE'S SHINDO HIKARU.

Game 147 "Only I Know"

READ THIS WAY

YEAH...

I THINK HE HAS THE ABILITY TO STAND EQUAL TO TOYA.

SHINDO?

THAT KID? ARE YOU SERIOUS, AMANO?

ISN'T SHINDO THE ONE WHO WAS PULLING NO-SHOWS AT HIS MATCHES?

HE REALLY PLAYED A POOR GAME THAT TIME.

AND THAT'S WHY TOYA SENSEI REQUESTED A MATCH-UP WITH SHINDO IN THE SHINSHODAN SERIES?

YES... BUT THE STRANGE THING IS, THAT DIDN'T MAKE KUWABARA SENSEI OR THE OTHERS LOWER THEIR OPINION OF HIM.

...HAVE ALL SHOWN AN INTEREST IN HIM.

FOR SOME REASON, PLAYERS AS PROMINENT AS TOYA KOYO, KUWABARA HON'INBO, AND OGATA JUDAN...

...I'VE JOINED THEIR RANKS. I'M SURE WE CAN EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM HIM.

AND SINCE I'VE LEARNED THAT YOUNG TOYA VIEWS SHINDO AS HIS RIVAL...

I DID HEAR THE RUMOR THAT KUWABARA SENSEI HELD SHINDO IN HIGH REGARD.

TOYA THINKS THAT? THAT'S REMARKABLE, IF IT'S TRUE.

I THINK THIS IS BEGINNING TO SOUND SERIOUS.

HEY! SHINDO'S GAME WITH TOYA IS THIS WEEK!

THAT REMINDS ME, I SAW KURATA LOOKING AT *GO WEEKLY* THE OTHER DAY. HE SAID...

SO HOW'S SHINDO BEEN DOING SINCE HE STARTED SHOWING UP AT HIS GAMES AGAIN?

YOU THINK EVEN KURATA'S CLIMBED ON THE SHINDO BANDWAGON?

MAYBE THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW WAVE OF YOUNG, POWERFUL PLAYERS!

WOW!

HE'S PLAYED EIGHT GAMES AND WON 'EM ALL.

MY MONEY'S ON TOYA! HE'S SURE TO SURPASS EVEN OGATA SENSEI AND KURATA SOMEDAY!

YEAH, AND THERE'S KURATA TOO!

CHATTER CHATTER

BUT OGATA SENSEI HAS ALREADY CUT INTO THEIR TERRITORY!

CHATTER CHATTER

IT WON'T BE EASY TO OVERCOME THE OLD GUARD.

OH! TOYA'S AND SHINDO'S GAME IS TODAY!

...AND MY HEART DANCES.

I THINK OF THE FUTURE...

YEAH, AMANO?

...SHINDO...

YEP! THERE'S TOYA...

...OCHI AND THE OTHERS.

NOT A WAVE... A TSUNAMI!

AND SHINDO STRIDING UP RIGHT BESIDE HIM!

WITH TOYA IN THE LEAD!

YES! THE POWER OF YOUTH! THE DAWN OF A NEW ERA!

HA HA HA

THE CIRCULATION OF *GO WEEKLY* WILL DOUBLE!

RIGHT, AMANO ?!

LOOK OUT, WORLD! JAPAN'S GONNA MAKE A COMEBACK!

...HOW THINGS WILL TURN OUT... HEH HEH...

YES, WELL, ONE NEVER KNOWS...

ENOUGH LAYING PIPE DREAMS. LET'S GET BACK TO WORK.

JAPAN GO ASSOCIATION

日本棋院

棋聖 趙治勲

基会のすすめ

囲碁教室 2F


BEEE

TIME FOR LUNCH!

...

THE GAME'S MOVING SO FAST.

IT'S ALREADY AN INCREDIBLY COMPLEX BATTLE.

SAEKI! SHALL WE GO GET LUNCH?

...AND HOLDING HIS OWN.

SHINDO'S GRAPPLING WITH TOYA AT FULL FORCE...

FOOD DOESN'T TASTE AS GOOD WHEN YOU'RE ALONE, Y'KNOW? AND AKIRA NEVER EATS DURING A MATCH ANYWAY.

DO THE TOYA PLAYERS THINK SO LITTLE OF THE MORISHITA PLAYERS?!

C'MON, C'MON...

SO WE SUSPEND PLAY AFTER TOYA'S SHOULDER HIT.

THEN I'LL AIM FOR WHITE'S THIN AREA WITH A KNIGHT'S MOVE.

HE IGNORED THE BATTLE IN THE UPPER RIGHT AND WENT FOR THE LOWER LEFT.

THE LOWER LEFT IS STILL SMALL. THE QUESTION IS HOW DO I GET INTO THE UPPER SIDE?

TOYA'S CONNECTIONS ARE ALWAYS SOLID, SO I CAN'T RUN OUT. I NEED TO MAKE LIFE ON THE INSIDE.

OH, IT'S LUNCH!

AM I AT A SLIGHT DISADVAN-TAGE?

NO... IT'LL BE DIFFICULT, BUT THERE'S STILL A WAY—

READ THIS WAY

HE'S NOT GONNA EAT?

...

...

YOU GONNA EAT, TOYA?

I'M HUNGRY, SO I'M HEADING OUT, 'KAY?

SAI...

HUH...

PLAYING YOU, I'M REMINDED OF SAI... FROM THE INTERNET.

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU...

...BUT I'M NOT SAI.

IT **IS** YOU.

THE OTHER YOU.

WHAT?

...WHO CAME OUT OF THE BLUE TWO YEARS AGO.

THERE'S ANOTHER YOU.

THE SHINDO HIKARU...

THAT WAS SAI.

!

HE PLAYED ME TWICE AT THE GO SALON.

READ THIS WAY

HE WAS SAI.

TOYA...

WITHIN YOU THERE'S... SOMEBODY ELSE.

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN TELL.

I KNOW, BECAUSE I KNOW YOU BETTER THAN ANYONE.

I'M TALKING CRAZY, I KNOW...

NEVER MIND...

UNTIL NOW, NOBODY KNEW SAI BUT ME.

TOYA FOUND SAI.

TOYA FOUND YOU.

SAI...

READ THIS WAY

...

WITHIN YOU...

...THERE'S ...SOMEBODY ELSE.

A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

CONSTANT CHANGE 2

NEW GO TOURNAMENTS COME UP.
OTHER EXISTING TOURNAMENTS DISAPPEAR.

AND INSTEAD OF BEING IN GROUP 1 OR GROUP 2, THE INSEI ARE NOW DIVIDED AMONG THREE CLASSES: A, B AND C.

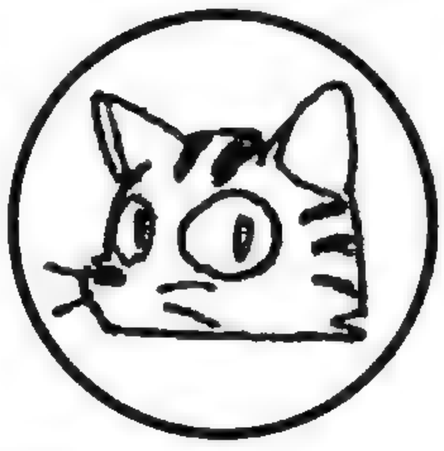
AND THE PRELIMINARIES FOR THE KISEI TOURNAMENT ARE CONDUCTED DIFFERENTLY.

THEY SAY THEY'LL STOP HAVING OTEAI MATCHES. AND THEY MIGHT INCREASE KOMI TO 6 AND A HALF POINTS.

I HEAR LOTS OF RUMORS ABOUT THINGS.

CHANGE IS AFOOT IN THE WORLD OF GO.

*This information is now out of date.



WITHIN YOU THERE'S... SOMEBODY ELSE.

Game 148 "A Familiar Smile"

THE GO YOU PLAY SHOWS YOUR COMPLETE SELF.

NO...

Game 148 "A Familiar Smile"



AND THAT'S ENOUGH.

THAT'S WHAT IT IS, THE TRUTH OF IT...

HUH... WHATTA YA KNOW...

THE GO I PLAY SHOWS MY COMPLETE SELF?

READ THIS WAY

YOU'RE RIGHT, TOYA.

BECAUSE SAI IS WITHIN MY GO GAME.

YOU KNOW WHAT?

I JUST MIGHT...

...TELL YOU, AND YOU ALONE, ABOUT IT SOMEDAY.

WHAT DID YOU MEAN?

SHINDO!

ZHOOP

HUH? ABOUT WHAT?

ANYWAY, YOU JUST TOLD ME MY COMPLETE SELF IS IN MY GO AND YOU WERE FINE WITH THAT.

NOW? SORRY, NOT GONNA HAPPEN!

SO THERE'S A SECRET AFTER ALL?! TELL ME!

LIKE AGES FROM NOW, IDIOT!

SOME-DAY! I SAID SOME-DAY!

YABBER YABBER

BUT YOU JUST SAID YOU'D TELL ME!

IDIOT ...?!

SO THAT'S THAT!

YES, I DID...

IN THE END...

MAN, I'M WORN OUT! THE GAME WENT FAST BUT WE REVIEWED IT **FOREVER**!

I'M ONLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU OVERDOING IT.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL. I DON'T UNDERSTAND GO ANYWAY.

I'M HOME...

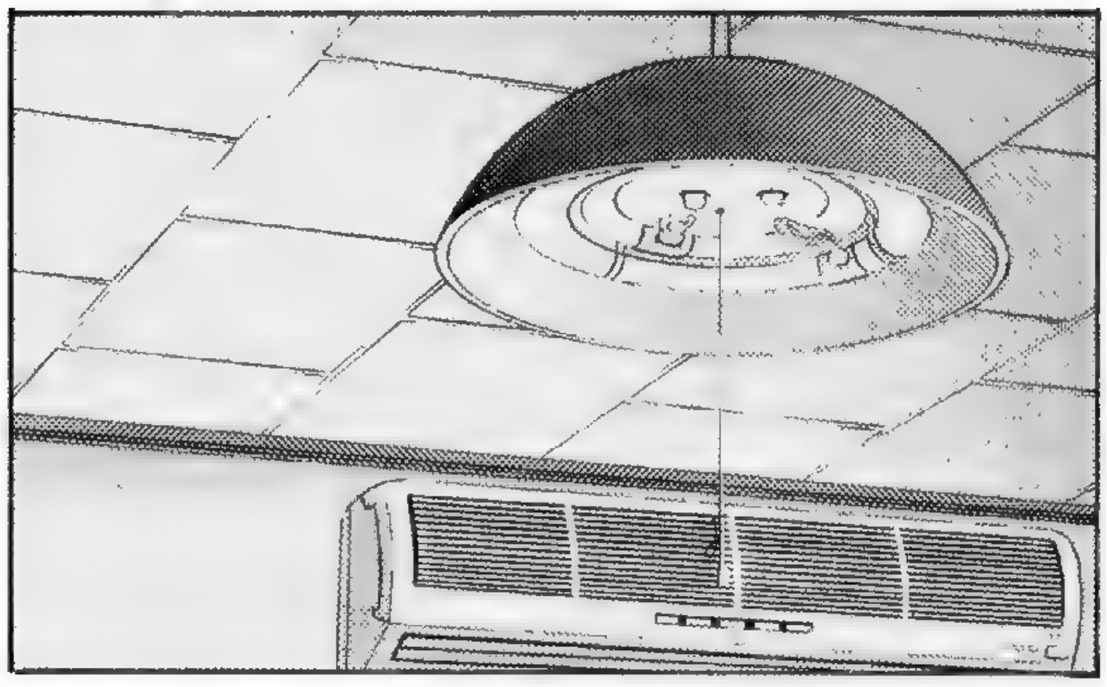
AH, GOOD.

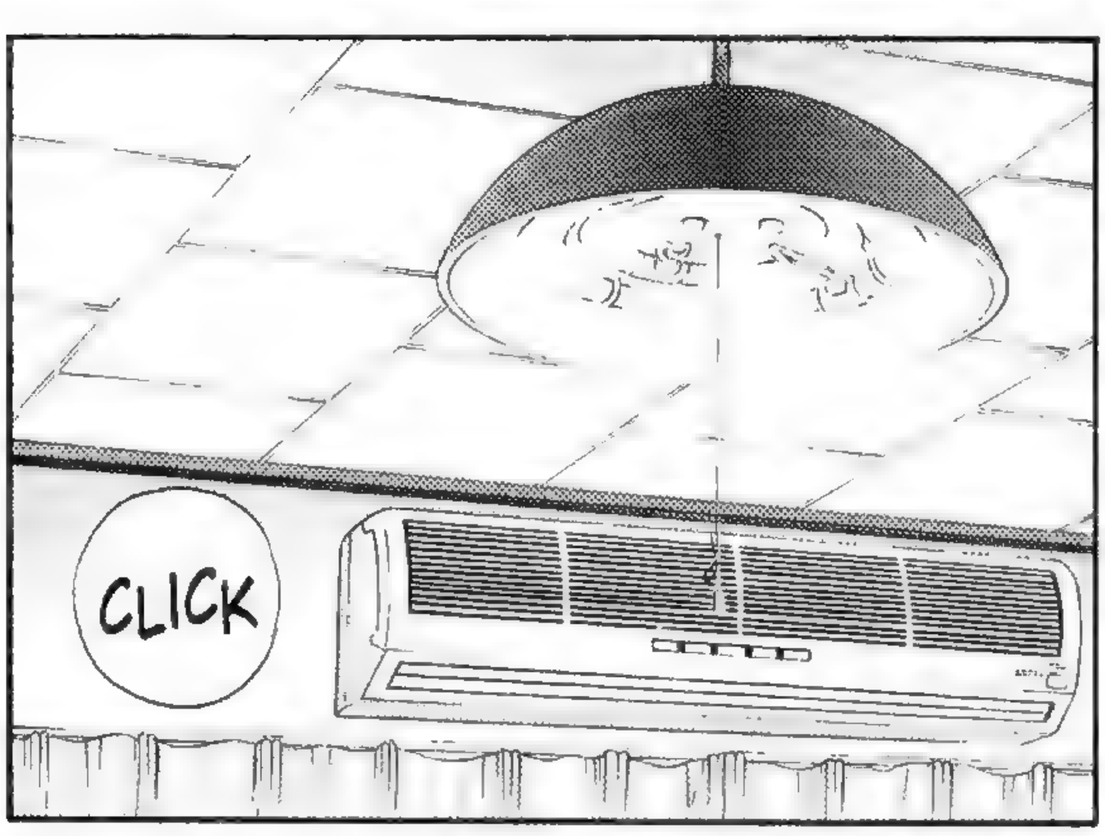
SLAM

FORGET IT. NO BATH FOR ME.

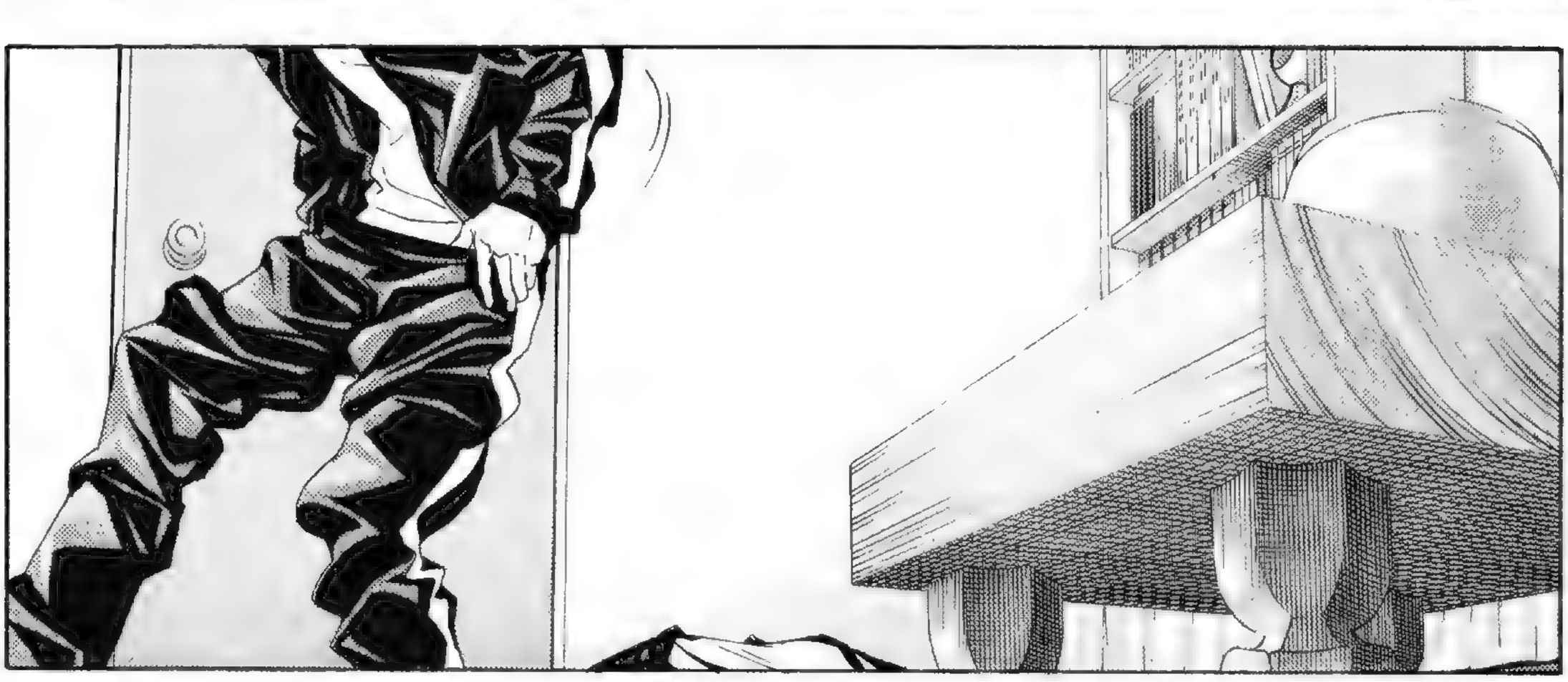
DAD'S ALMOST DONE WITH HIS BATH...

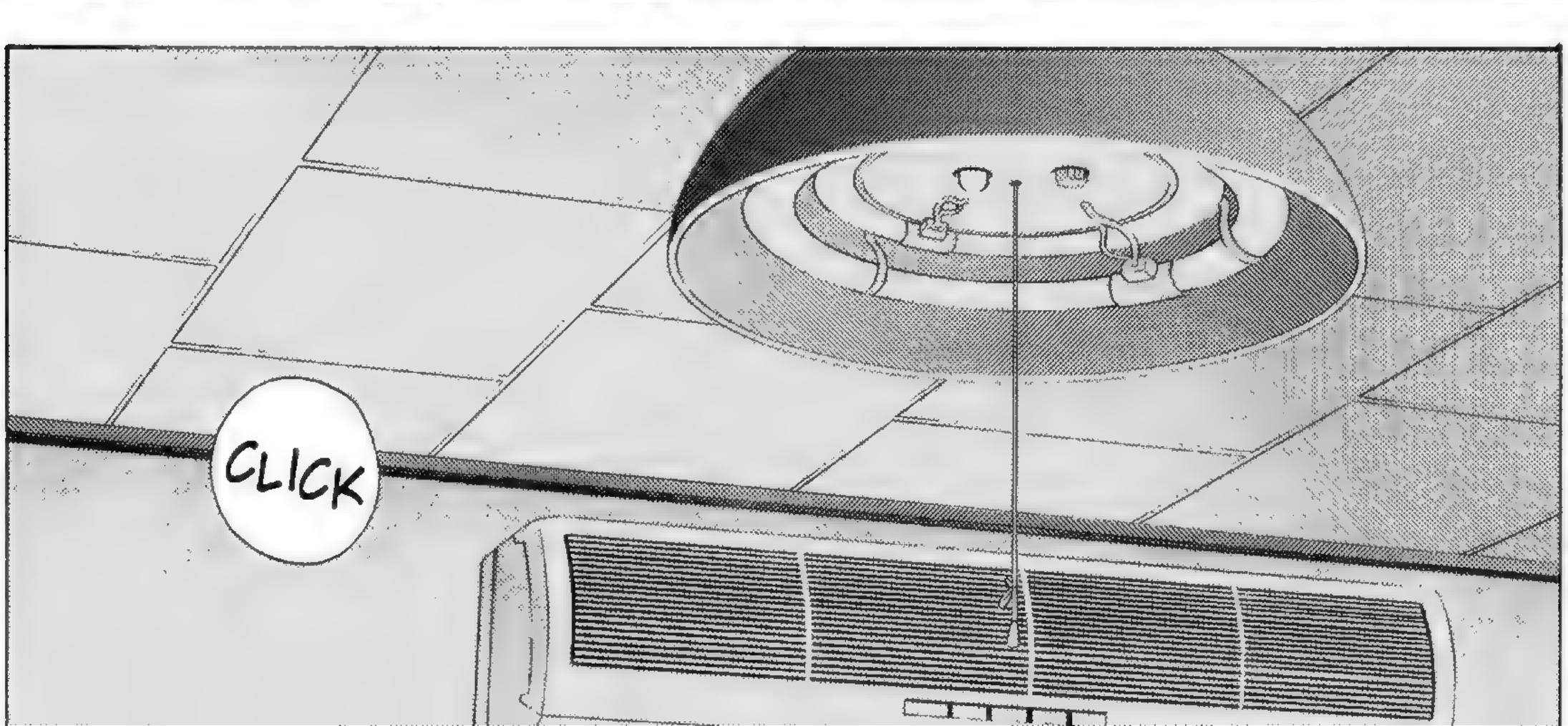
READ THIS WAY











HMM...?

SHOES?

?

THIS IS A DREAM.

OH...

WELL, IF IT IS, MAYBE...

SOMETIMES I CAN TELL WHEN IT'S A DREAM.

...SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN.

IF ONLY IT WOULD...










YOU'VE COME TO ME IN A DREAM?
SAI...



REMEMBER HIM? FIRST MATCH OF THE FIRST ROUND OF PRELIMS FOR THE MEIJIN TITLE?

SAI, I PLAYED TOYA TODAY!

I LOST, BUT...

I EVEN PROMISED HIM I'D PLAY AT HIS GO SALON FROM TIME TO TIME.

...WE'RE GONNA PLAY HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF GAMES TOGETHER.

AND MITANI WAS IN A TOURNAMENT WHERE HE...

'COURSE, I WON'T TELL MORISHITA SENSEI. HA HA...

OH YEAH! ISUMI PASSED THE PRO TEST!

MAN, SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE YOU DISAPPEARED!

I HAVE SO MUCH...

...TO TELL YOU...

...

SAI...

WHY'D YOU DISAPPEAR?

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO KEEP PLAYING FOREVER!

I JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND!

WHY DID YOU DISAPPEAR?!

HOW DID YOU FEEL...WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED?

WERE YOU SAD?

OR WERE YOU SMILING LIKE YOU ARE NOW?

I HOPE YOU WERE...

...SMILING.

...THAT HE NOTICED.

BUT IT ALSO MADE ME HAPPY...

BOY, DID I PANIC FOR AN INSTANT.

SAI... TOYA TOLD ME THERE WAS SOMEBODY INSIDE ME.

SAI...

SAI?

DON'T GO! SAY SOME-THING!

DON'T DISAPPEAR!

SAI!

SAI?

...

READ THIS WAY

GASP


SAI...

HIKARU! IT'S PAST SEVEN ALREADY! YOU GOING TO SCHOOL?

OKAY, HURRY UP.

I'M COMING! I'M COMING!

NOT IF I RUN!

CAN I HAVE SECONDS, MOM?

WON'T YOU BE LATE?

WILL YOU BE LATE?

I'M GONNA STOP BY A GO SALON ON MY WAY HOME.

I'LL BE HOME BY DINNER.

ALL RIGHT.

BYE!
I'M OFF!

The End of A Familiar Face



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